CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Kleofas Coal Mine		DATE DISTR.		12 June 19	953
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- The Kleofas mine near Stalinogrod (formerly Katowice) employs about 2,000 miners. These miners are made up of the following groups:
 - a. About 800 so-called free miners, who are working at the mine voluntarily and earning the normal miner's wages. These miners live in private homes in the city.
 - b. About 700 miners from the forced labor camp, located near the mine in the suburb caled Zaleze. They live in five barracks, surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by KBW (Internal Security Corps) sentries. This group is composed of political and social criminals who are alleged to have caused damage to the people's democracy. They earn half the wages of the free miners, which is scarcely sufficient for bad food, poor clothes and poorer lodgings. The barracks are in very bad condition, with very few being heated during the winter.
 - c. About 500 miners are soldiers from the labor battalion, which is composed of four companies. These soldiers live in wooden barracks located near the mine. They wear uniforms of poor quality and get fairly good military rations, but barely earn six zloty a month, plus occasional bonuses for extra work. However, the soldiers are forced to take part in military training exercises on Sundays.
- 2. The workers at the Kleofas mine are employed in three daily shifts. The mine possesses a very poor grade of coal, and the miners, in order to fulfill at least three-quarters of their quota, have made a one-way passageway to the nearby Wawel coal mine, which in turn has a higher grade of coal. The local authorities have knowledge of the fact that the miners from the Kleofas mine are getting coal from the Wawel mine, but do nothing to stop this.

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After Stalin's death, more than 15 percent of the men in the military labor battalion deserted; not all of the escapees have been caught. However, those captured have been sentenced at a so-called "accelerated pace" to 15 years of forced labor.

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